Use of retreaded tyre by Alliance Air

2864. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Alliance Air had used a Six time retreaded tyre in a Boeing 737 chartered by Army to ferry its personnel from Leh recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or to be taken against the erring officials connected with this episode?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The use of retreaded tyres is a normal Aviation industry practice. As per existing instructions of Indian Airlines/Alliance Air, tyres retreaded 6 times can be used on B-737 aircraft.

(c) During the investigations, it has been found that the subject tyre failure took place either due to suspected Foreign Object Damage (FOD) or material failure. Negligence has not been observed on the part of the person/s involved in maintenance/flight operations of the above flight.

Purchase of Flight simulators

2865. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by Government to check air accidents;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government are acquiring flights simulators in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the benefits of such Flight simulators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Steps are taken on continuous basis by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to cut down air accidents. The steps taken include safety audit of operators, periodic spot checks, airworthiness control on ageing aircraft, installation of Minimum Safe Altitude Warning System, Installation of Monopulse

Secondary Surveillance Radars, installation of Ground Proximity Warning System, installation of Airborne Collision Avoidance System, Strict compliance with airworthiness standards and maintenance infrastructure in accordance with Rules and Regulations in force from time to time. The other steps taken are internal audits by operators themselves, surveillance by Flight Inspectors, special operating precautions in poor weather conditions and dissemination of safety information through seminars and workshops.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, Air India Limited, Indian Airlines Limited and Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited have flight simulators of the types of aircrafts/helicopters operated by them for training of flight crew. These simulators are capable of creating different types of emergencies and pilots are trained to handle such situations. This training cannot be carried out on actual aircrafts as the cost will be high and flight safety could be endangered.

Bilateral air service agreements

2866. SHRI ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of bilateral air service agreements/negotiations concluded on the basis of balance of advantage and reciprocity to either side, during the last one year.

(b) the details of flight/frequencies agreed to in the bilateral negotiations, country-wise/airlines-wise;

(c) whether Air India/Indian Airlines are not using allotted frequencies of air services on many sectors which is detrimental to their business interests; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) Review of bilateral air service agreements is an ongoing process to make adequate capacity available on different routes to meet expected demand. The details of bilateral air